

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 21, 1995.

I hereby designate the Honorable J.D. HAYWORTH to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

¶119.2 APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. HAYWORTH, announced he had examined and approved the Journal of the proceedings of Wednesday, September 30, 1995.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal was approved.

¶119.3 COMMUNICATIONS

Executive and other communications, pursuant to clause 2, rule XXIV, were referred as follows:

1452. A letter from the Deputy Associate Director for Compliance, Department of the Interior, transmitting notification of proposed refunds of offshore lease revenues in OCS areas, pursuant to 43 U.S.C. 1339(b); to the Committee on Resources.

1453. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation to amend title 38, sections 810(2) and 810(h)(3)(B), USC; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

1454. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Labor, transmitting the quarterly report on the expenditure and need for worker adjustment assistance training funds under the Trade Act of 1974, pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2296(a)(2); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1455. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a copy of the annual report entitled "Monitoring the Impact of Medicare Physician Payment Reform on Utilization and Access," pursuant to Public Law 101-239; jointly, to the Committees on Ways and Means and Commerce.

¶119.4 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed bills of the following titles, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S.J. Res. 20. Joint resolution granting the consent of Congress to the compact to provide for joint natural resource management and enforcement of laws and regulations pertaining to natural resources and boating at the Jennings Randolph Lake Project lying in Garrett County, Maryland and Mineral County, West Virginia, entered into between the States of West Virginia and Maryland; and

S. Con. Res. 27. Concurrent resolution correcting the enrollment of H.R. 402.

¶119.5 SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBA

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. HAYWORTH, pursuant to House Resolution 225 and rule XXIII, declared the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 927) to seek international sanctions against the Castro government in Cuba, to plan for the support of a transition government leading to a democratically elected government in Cuba, and for other purposes.

Mr. DUNCAN, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, resumed the

chair; and after some time spent therein,

¶119.6 RECORDED VOTE

A recorded vote by electronic device was ordered in the Committee of the Whole on the following amendment in the nature of a substitute submitted by Mr. McDERMOTT:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1995".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Findings.
- Sec. 3. Purposes.
- Sec. 4. Definitions.

TITLE I—SEEKING SANCTIONS AGAINST THE CASTRO GOVERNMENT

- Sec. 101. Statement of policy.
- Sec. 102. Enforcement of the economic embargo of Cuba.
- Sec. 103. Prohibition against indirect financing of the Castro dictatorship.
- Sec. 104. United States opposition to Cuban membership in international financial institutions.
- Sec. 105. United States opposition to ending the suspension of the Government of Cuba from the Organization of American States.
- Sec. 106. Assistance by the Independent States of the former Soviet Union for the Cuban Government.
- Sec. 107. Television broadcasting to Cuba.
- Sec. 108. Reports on assistance and commerce received by Cuba from other foreign countries.
- Sec. 109. Authorization of support for democratic and human rights groups and international observers.
- Sec. 110. Withholding of foreign assistance from countries supporting nuclear plant in Cuba.
- Sec. 111. Expulsion of criminals from Cuba.
- Sec. 112. Exports of food or medical items.

TITLE II—ASSISTANCE TO A FREE AND INDEPENDENT CUBA

- Sec. 201. Policy toward a transition government and a democratically elected government in Cuba.
- Sec. 202. Assistance for the Cuban people.
- Sec. 203. Coordination of assistance program; implementation and reports to Congress; reprogramming.
- Sec. 204. Termination of the economic embargo of Cuba.
- Sec. 205. Requirements for a transition government.
- Sec. 206. Requirements for a democratically elected government.

TITLE III—PROTECTION OF PROPERTY RIGHTS OF UNITED STATES NATIONALS AGAINST CONFISCATORY TAKINGS BY THE CASTRO REGIME

- Sec. 301. Statement of policy.
- Sec. 302. Liability for trafficking in property confiscated from United States nationals.
- Sec. 303. Determination of claims to confiscated property.
- Sec. 304. Exclusivity of Foreign Claims Settlement Commission certification procedure.

TITLE IV—EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN ALIENS

- Sec. 401. Exclusion from the United States of aliens who have confiscated property of United States nationals or who traffic in such property.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress makes the following findings:
(1) The economy of Cuba has experienced a decline of at least 60 percent in the last 5 years as a result of—

(A) the end of its subsidization by the former Soviet Union of between 5 billion and 6 billion dollars annually;

(B) 36 years of Communist tyranny and economic mismanagement by the Castro government;

(C) the extreme decline in trade between Cuba and the countries of the former Soviet bloc; and

(D) the stated policy of the Russian Government and the countries of the former Soviet bloc to conduct economic relations with Cuba on strictly commercial terms.

(2) At the same time, the welfare and health of the Cuban people have substantially deteriorated as a result of this economic decline and the refusal of the Castro regime to permit free and fair democratic elections in Cuba.

(3) The Castro regime has made it abundantly clear that it will not engage in any substantive political reforms that would lead to democracy, a market economy, or an economic recovery.

(4) The repression of the Cuban people, including a ban on free and fair democratic elections, and continuing violations of fundamental human rights have isolated the Cuban regime as the only completely non-democratic government in the Western Hemisphere.

(5) As long as free elections are not held in Cuba, the economic condition of the country and the welfare of the Cuban people will not improve in any significant way.

(6) The totalitarian nature of the Castro regime has deprived the Cuban people of any peaceful means to improve their condition and has led thousands of Cuban citizens to risk or lose their lives in dangerous attempts to escape from Cuba to freedom.

(7) Radio Marti and Television Marti have both been effective vehicles for providing the people of Cuba with news and information and have helped to bolster the morale of the people of Cuba living under tyranny.

(8) The consistent policy of the United States towards Cuba since the beginning of the Castro regime, carried out by both Democratic and Republican administrations, has sought to keep faith with the people of Cuba, and has been effective in sanctioning the totalitarian Castro regime.

(9) The United States has shown a deep commitment, and considers it a moral obligation, to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as expressed in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

(10) The Congress has historically and consistently manifested its solidarity and the solidarity of the American people with the democratic aspirations of the Cuban people.

(11) The Cuban Democracy Act of 1992 calls upon the President to encourage the governments of countries that conduct trade with Cuba to restrict their trade and credit relations with Cuba in a manner consistent with the purposes of that Act.

(12) The 1992 FREEDOM Support Act requires that the President, in providing economic assistance to Russia and the emerging Eurasian democracies, take into account the extent to which they are acting to "terminate support for the communist regime in Cuba, including removal of troops, closing military facilities, and ceasing trade subsidies and economic, nuclear, and other assistance".

(13) The Cuban Government engages in the illegal international narcotics trade and harbors fugitives from justice in the United States.